

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Rule 1.53(b) Divisional Application of:)

Luis PASAMONTES and Yuri TSYGANKOV) Parent Examiner: E. Slobodyansky, Ph.D.

Parent Serial No.: 09/920,923) Parent Art Unit: 1652

Parent Filed: August 2, 2001)

For: **FERMENTATIVE CAROTENOID**)
PRODUCTION

New York, New York
October 29, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the above-identified Rule 53(b) divisional application in advance of prosecution on the merits. The amendments presented below mirror amendments presented in the parent application, and are intended to "complete" the present application.

Because this Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with the above-identified application, no fee is believed due. If, however, a fee is due, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed.

Please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS: none.

REMARKS begin on page 7 of this paper.